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NEWS

Professor, veteran reporter dies

Retired Assistant Professor Mr. Jerry Chandler remembered fondly

Kaitlin Fleming
Editor in Chief

On August 15, the Jacksonville State University family lost a colleague and friend when retired journalist and Professor Emeritus Jerry Chandler died.

Chandler's career in journalism began in Anniston after returning from the Vietnam war, where he was a medic with the 101st Airborne Division, an assignment that led to him being awarded a Purple Heart.

He began working in local radio at WDNG and then WHMA. He was news director for WHMA when he witnessed the aftermath of the Delta Airlines Flight 191 on August 2, 1985 at the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport in Texas.

The tragedy and subsequent news stories led to sweeping changes in flight safety. Chandler's experience led him to write "Fire and Rain," which later became a New York Times best-seller.

His work was featured on many aviation industry websites and magazines, including Frequent Flyer and Aircraft Maintenance Technology. Chandler's work was also featured in The New York Times, The Financial Times of London and Time magazine.

Chandler was a guest on national media outlets, including NPR and CNN, and contributed to the PBS documentary, "Why Planes Crash"

After a long and successful career as a reporter, Chandler became a professor at JSU in 1987 where many of his students respected him and his feedback.

According to the obituary that was released, he was a humble and hard working man.

"His writing skills were matched only by his humility and work ethic. You would never find him resting on any laurels – just working on his next story," read the online obituary.

Since his death, those who worked with Chandler at JSU have shared stories and advice that he gave them.

Pamela Hill, a former student and colleague of Chandler's, said he was always "very supportive."

"When I started as an undergrad in 1999, he was my advisor," said Hill, a part time instructor for the



submitted photo

Mr. Jerry Chandler (pictured above), a beloved professor at Jacksonville State University and professional journalist, died on August 15, after a battle with Parkinson's Disease.

Communication Department. "I had five undergraduate classes with him, he kind of was my favorite. He was so excited when he found out that I would be an adjunct here. He had a huge smile on his face and said he was glad I decided to give back to the department we both loved."

Hill went on to say that Chandler never "spoonfed" his students and always demanded their best.

"You knew you better be prepared because he had a way of letting you know that he really wanted you to do your best work. He had a red pen that would bleed all over your projects. He would be very honest. He would tell you what you needed to do and expected you'd be able to fix it."

Hill wasn't the only former student who had fond memories of Chandler. Lauren Jackson Lee, a staff writer with the Hartselle Enquirer and former Chandler student said he taught her the importance of deadlines.

"One of my earliest memories with Mr. Chandler is attending the summer journalism institute in high school," said Lee. "He jumped right into teaching and held a mock press conference then asked us to write a news article on it. Even though we were in high school he set the 'deadline' in an hour. After having completed the assignment, I felt certain journalism was the correct career for me."

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NEWS

JSU transitions from Blackboard to Canvas

Ashleigh Crouch
News Correspondent

Last fall, the university announced that it will transition from Blackboard to Canvas. As of August 16, Blackboard is no longer available.

Canvas is said to be more efficient than Blackboard, and includes unique and useful features such as Office 365 integration, a media recorder, the ability to create polls, learning modules and integrated help resources.

Randal Blades, a JSU drama professor who taught a Canvas Pilot course in the Summer 2019 semester, seems to be happy with the transition, stating that it is easier for them to interact with students.

Up until this semester JSU has used Blackboard for online and hybrid classes, a system designed to help professors keep in touch with students regarding class meetings, cancellations, grades and other important announcements.

"I found learning [the Canvas sys-

tem] challenging but rewarding, and I felt like Canvas students were better able to navigate the course and it allowed me to conduct the course in a manner that was beneficial to student learning," said Blades.

The Canvas system was established in 2008 and launched in 2011, and the system is currently used by more than 2,000 universities across the nation.

"[Canvas will] provide students with more efficient and effective work flows suitable for the way learning takes place now," said Chris Casey, the operations manager at Online @ JSU.

Student reaction to the transition appears mostly positive with many arguing that the interface is much more user-friendly.

"[Canvas] seems much more modern to me, and I believe it will be much easier for students to use," said Marili Zurita, a JSU sophomore student.

Sophomore Britney Ryals, who took a Canvas Pilot course in the Spring 2019 semester agreed.

"I like Canvas a lot better than Blackboard, and I am excited to begin using it for all of my classes," said Ryals.

To access Canvas, you must create an initial password by following the steps below:

-Go to the Canvas login page: <https://jsu.instructure.com>.

-Choose "Forgot Password?"

-Enter your JSU email (for example, user@stu.jsu.edu or user@jsu.edu)

-Watch for reset password email at your JSU email.

-Login with the new password at the Canvas login page.

-Username = full JSU email (for example, user@stu.jsu.edu or user@jsu.edu).

For more information about Canvas, contact Online @ JSU at 256-782-8172.

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@ChanticleerJSU



CAMPUS

UPD shares campus safety tips with students

Scott Young
News Editor

Jacksonville State University is dedicated to providing a safe environment for students to obtain their education and enjoy themselves on campus. Students should always be aware and informed on how to stay safe while on campus.

The University Police Department (UPD) provides the same services as a traditional law enforcement agency and works 24/7 to keep Jacksonville State a safe campus for all its students.

“Stay vigilant and alert to surroundings, report suspicious activity, keep your car locked with valuables out of sight, check the area before entering your vehicle, be cautious for pedestrian and bicycle traffic on and near campus, and ensure that you are receiving JSU alerts on your phone,” said Rob Schaffer, Chief of the University Police.

When walking around campus, it’s important to be aware of your surroundings and avoid walking alone on campus if possible. If walking at night, try to walk with a partner or group and avoid isolated or poorly-lit areas like alleys, vacant lots or buildings. It is encouraged for you to remember the following well-known rules:
-Do not trust strangers.
-Always travel with those you



Courtesy of JSU

The University Police Department serves the entire campus of Jacksonville State University. They can issue parking citations and traffic tickets, as well as respond to emergency situations and more.

know.
-There is safety in numbers.
-Do not leave valuables unattended.

Schaffer encourages incoming freshmen to visit www.jsu.edu/police to view two videos regarding safety; one regarding active shooter information and one about campus preparedness and safety which is specific to JSU.

If you ever feel unsafe on campus, UPD maintains seven

emergency phones throughout campus that are a direct method of communication with UPD dispatch. These phones are located at the middle of the Quad, at the intersection of Russell Parkway and Trustee Circle, at the corner of Stephenson Gym, near the entrance of the JSU track and near Abbott Circle. Simply push the button and you will be connected directly to a dispatcher.

Students are encouraged to sign up to receive emergency notifications to their phone and to update their emergency contact number in the JSU Emergency Alert System. The alerts allow stu-

dents, faculty and staff to receive emergency messages via text message and email regarding any on-campus emergencies or severe weather. You can sign up for these alerts by visiting <http://www.jsu.edu/police/emergencymgt/alert-system.html>.

Students should also make sure they own a NOAA weather radio in the event of any severe weather such as severe thunderstorms, flooding or tornadoes. Never rely solely on outdoor sirens. Your weather radio is more likely to wake you up in the middle of the night to alert you for tornado warnings than an outdoor siren.

ABC 33/40 Chief Meteorologist James Spann encourages everyone to know where they are going during a tornado warning. In the event of a tornado warning, seek shelter at the lowest floor of your building away from any windows. Wear a helmet, if possible, to remain safe from any flying debris.

“Every Alabama home and business needs a NOAA Weather Radio (NEVER rely on an outdoor siren), and everyone needs Wireless Emergency Alerts enabled on their phone,” said Spann in an emailed statement. “Everyone must know in advance where they are going during a tornado warning and have helmets for everyone in that safe place.”

For more information on campus safety, please visit www.jsu.edu/police or call 256-782-8888. To report an emergency or crime, dial 256-782-5050 or 911.

Letter from the Editor in Chief

I began my first semester at Jacksonville State University in August of 2016. I had just completed my Associate’s degree at Gadsden State Community College and I was ready to move on to a real university. I love to tell the story of the day I knew Jacksonville State is where I belonged. My mother and I drove down to Jacksonville to tour the campus and meet with my future advisor in April of 2016. As we were driving in on Highway 204, I saw the top of the Houston Cole Library and I was immediately at peace. Our first stop was at my advisor’s office in Self Hall. I met Mr. Stedham for the first time that morning. I brought a notebook with questions already written down and a list of all the classes

I wanted to take in the following semester. Walking into Self Hall was like walking into my house. I knew that I would spend most of my time there. So far, I have been correct. The first year I was a student here, I spent most of my lunches in the Self Hall student lounge. I survived off Wendy’s Four for Four deals, that were then half priced for JSU students, and vending machine snacks. It should be no surprise that I gained roughly 30 pounds my first year here. Now that I am finishing my last year and I have been brought in as Editor-in-Chief of the Chanticleer, I might as well bring an air mattress to my office! The good news is, I have lost most of that weight from having no time to eat. In other news,

the Pepsi vending machines have been upgraded to Coca Cola machines and now they take debit cards. It’s rather unfortunate for my bank account.

I have made so many memories while here at this university. Some of them are life lessons learned but most of them are pleasant. This campus is filled with so many kind people. There is a reason it is known as the “Friendliest Campus in the South.”

Jacksonville is a beautiful town, even after the destructive tornado in March of 2018. When I am overwhelmed with tests and assignments, I like to sit under the big trees around the campus and look off toward the mountain. If you close your eyes and listen you can hear the sound of a 20J playing in the distance or the sound of the Bibb Grave’s bell chiming at the top of every hour (and five minutes after.) If you listen even harder you can hear the sound of memories being made, happiness being spread and traditions that go back decades.

Welcome home!
P.S. Do us communication students a favor and pick up a newspaper, turn on the news or tune in to a local radio show!
-Kaitlin Fleming
Editor in Chief

Campus parking for the novice

If you have a car, you may bring it to campus, but be wary of JSU’s color-coded parking.

Parking lots are divided into four colors: gold for faculty and staff, silver for commuter students, orange for students living on the south side of campus and green for students living on the north side of campus.

The parking zones are as follows:

Green: Sparkman Hall, Pannell Hall, Dixon Hall, Crow Hall, Logan Hall, Patterson Hall and the International House.

Orange: Curtiss Hall, Fitzpatrick Hall, Dauge Hall, Meehan Hall, Campus Inn, Jax Apartments, Colonial Arms, College Apartments and Fraternity Row.

Silver: Penn House Apartments, the School of Business and Industry Complex (SBIC) and commuters.

Gold: Faculty and Staff
Parking decals must be purchased for you to park on campus. You may purchase your decals online with your MyJSU account for \$25.

Decals must be permanently affixed inside the front windshield, at the passenger side lower corner using the decal’s self-adhesive. Decals must be visible at all times.

Updated regulations and guidelines can be viewed online at www.jsu.edu/police/traffic.

A parking map is available online at www.jsu.edu/campus/parking.

Parking violations and fines are common. Make sure you follow all traffic laws and campus regulations.

Here are some of the most common violations and their fines:

- Parking in wrong zone - \$25
- No parking permit displayed - \$25
- Improper parking - \$25
- Obstructing traffic flow - \$45
- Overtime parking - \$25
- Improper decal display - \$15
- Boot immobilizer - \$25
- Yellow curb parking - \$25
- Parking in no parking zone - \$25
- Parking in “Reserved Parking” zone, first offense - \$100
- Parking in “Reserved Parking” zone, second offense - \$200
- Parking in “Reserved Parking” zone, third offense - \$300
- Parking in “Accessible HDC” zone, first offense - \$100
- Parking in “Accessible HDC” zone, second offense - \$200 plus a boot
- Parking in “Accessible HDC” zone, third offense - \$300 plus vehicle towed

Tickets can be paid online through your MyJSU account. Tickets may also be appealed through an online application.

For more information, call Parking Services at 256-782-5566.

THE CHANTICLEER NEWSPAPER

JSU’s student operated newspaper since 1934

The staff at *The Chanticleer* reserves the right to edit and change any submissions for any reason. We are not responsible for the opinions inside the paper; we simply print the opinions of others. Opinion pieces will be clearly labeled as opinion and news will be labeled as news.

If you have any questions or concerns you may contact us by email at chantynewstips@gmail.com or by phone at 256-782-5701. You may also contact our adviser Mr. Mike Stedham by email at mstedham@jsu.edu or by phone at 256-782-5713.

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News

CAMPUS

JSU introduces new fee structure

Scott Young
News Editor

Fees at Jacksonville State University are now bundled and charged per credit hour in one ‘general university fee’, as opposed to the previous structure where each fee was listed individually. Program and course fees are not included in the bundled fee and are charged separately.

Students taking between one and three credit hours are charged \$150 per credit hour for their general university fee; and students taking four to five credit hours are charged \$125 per credit hour. For six or more credit hours, there is a flat rate of \$700.

The bundled fee structure is inclusive of the athletic fee, Recreation and Fitness Center fee, general university fee, technology fee and student activity fee.

Students taking a fewer amount of credit hours pay less in fees under the new fee structure, but a student taking the traditional 12 credit hour course load pays an extra \$113, or 19.25 percent more in fees; not including program and course fees.

When asked for the new allocations for the bundled ‘general university fee’, Buffy Lockette, JSU’s public relations director, provided this breakdown:

- Wellness Center, 37.01 percent
- Transportation, 6.18 percent

- Student Health Center, 3.82 percent
- Technology Fee, 11.39 percent
- Athletic Fee, 10.42 percent
- Library, 3.93 percent
- Student Activities, 3.41 percent
- Classroom Upgrades, 7.99 percent
- General Fund, 15.85 percent

Kyra Watral, a senior majoring in chemistry and biology, is taking 16 credit hours and has paid the bundled \$700 general university fee.

“I hate it,” said Watral in reference to the new fee structure. “Not just because of the increase, but because of why. JSU has only had fees for a short time now, and they are already \$700 a semester?”

Watal claims that JSU fits a different ‘niche’ than larger schools like Alabama and Auburn, and that JSU should not compete to become more like them in terms of campus size and cost of attendance.

“Instead of actually attempting to compete with other colleges by improving our academic programs, they’re just randomly building things and charging students for things we never asked for and don’t want or need while blatantly ignoring the things we are asking for, like updated residence halls and more parking,” said Watral.

She adds that while new fees have been added and increased, she has not seen those dollars in action to improve the School of

Science.

“Last I was on campus [the end of July], Martin still had moldy boards covering up windows,” said Watral. “We have many different pieces of equipment that do not work and are just sitting around collecting dust.”

Lockette argues that many students were confused by the old fee structure and that the new fee structure was reorganized at the suggestion of the Tuition and Fees Committee.

“Part-time students taking only one course had to pay the same fees as those taking 16 hours,” said Lockette. “Now, fees are bundled and charged by the credit hour.”

Lockette points to the upgrades made to Mason Hall, Stone Center and Brewer Hall in defense of the university’s diligence on campus renovations.

“Soon, we will break ground on new buildings for the School of Health Professions and Wellness and School of Business and Industry,” said Lockette. “Both of these projects will provide the opportunity to increase parking on campus.”

Lockette adds that the university’s addition of the Pointe@JSU to the list of residences has aided in stabilizing the housing shortage caused by the tornado.

“We appreciate how patient our students have been throughout the rebuilding process and look forward to having the JSU family back together again for the start of the fall semester.

CHANDLER from Page 1

Lee also said that Chandler wanted his students to reach their “full potential.”

Although I would say Mr. Chandler initially comes across as strict, he is someone that genuinely cared for his students,” said Lee. “Everything he did was for his students. His classes were sometimes challenging, but always rewarding in the end.”

Former student Jason Bozeman knew all about Chandler’s desire for his students to reach their full potential. Bozeman said he viewed Chandler as a friend and mentor.

“I watched the Super Bowl with him and his family every year for about five years,” said Bozeman. “It was such a special time every year, because I was always treated as a member of the family, even though I was a disgruntled Oakland Raiders fan.”

Bozeman said that Chandler was a “an incredibly important mentor to hundreds of students.”

“If I do anything good as a broadcaster, it is because he taught me how. I spent just as many hours in his office asking advice on how to run 92J [the college radio station], as I did in any class. And it always ended with him telling me how proud he was of me.”

2005 JSU graduate Julie-Anne Dentici said Chandler “pushed” her and “challenged” her with her writing and one time, when she received an “A” on a project he said it was “fine work” and that he knew she could do it.

“Chandler wasn’t one to give compliments easily or freely,” said Dentici. “So, when he did give them, you knew that he meant it. I took him for several classes, but I think my favorite was Media Features.”

Mike Stedham, a communication professor and friend of Chandler’s, said he was a man of “great religious faith” and that he had faith in “the power of journalism” to make society better.

“He was a stickler for accuracy whenever he wrote a news story, and he insisted on accuracy in

every class he taught here at JSU.” said Stedham. “He inspired his students, and he inspired me to be a better teacher every semester. He was the heart and soul of the Communication Department.”

Stedham and Hill weren’t the only colleagues that had kind things to say about Chandler. Current Associate Professor and Department Head of Communication Dr. Patrick McGrail said one of the first people he met when he came to JSU 11 years ago was Chandler.

“It was obvious he was held in high esteem by everyone, and yet he seemed like such a humble man,” said McGrail. “But I would hear students say, ‘I’ve got Mr. Chandler after this. Is he hard?’ And another student would say, ‘But you’ll learn so much.’ So I knew he was the real deal. Although I was an experienced professor at that time, I still came to regard Jerry Chandler as a mentor figure for me. He just knew students, his material, and the lay of the land. It was great. I even had a thorny question that had come up regarding television coverage of a certain military plane, and Jerry gave me his opinion and lots of info about it, and I realized that coverage of the plane was biased and wrong. It was obvious that I was in the presence of greatness.”

Chandler retired from teaching in 2017 and in June 2017, he was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Aerospace Media Awards in Paris, France.

A Funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, August 23 at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Anniston. Burial with military honors will follow at Forestlawn Gardens. The family will receive friends at the church on Thursday evening from 5 - 7 p.m. followed by a prayer service at 7 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Chandler’s honor to Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Anniston, the Parkinson’s Foundation at parkinson.org or JSU’s Department of Communication.



Campus Crime Log

August 20, 2019, Violation of Student Code of Conduct, The Pointe

August 19, 2019, Information Report, JSU Campus

August 19, 2019, Duty Upon Striking an Unattended Vehicle, Carlisle Building Parking Lot

August 19, 2019, Domestic Violence, The Pointe

August 19, 2019, Domestic Violence, The Pointe

August 18, 2019, Possession of Marijuana, Sparkman Hall

August 18, 2019, Medical Emergency, JSU Stadium

August 18, 2019, Medical Emergency, JSU Stadium

August 17, 2019, Possession of Marijuana and Criminal Trespass, The Pointe

August 17, 2019, Automobile Accident, Meehan Hall Parking Lot

Have an emergency?
Dial (256) 782-5050 or 911

Upcoming Campus Events

AUGUST

22 - Spirit on Mountain Street, 6 p.m., JSU Stadium
14th annual Spirit on Mountain Street festival. Local restaurants will dish up their most popular menu items for \$1 per sample, with all proceeds going to the Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center.

26 - Welcome Back Cookout, 3 p.m., International House
Come celebrate the start of a new school year at the International House! Plenty of free food and drinks for everyone, as well as entertainment!

SEPTEMBER

7 - International House Open House, 2 p.m.
Come learn more about the International House, what we do, and how you can live here!

14 - JSU Band Day against Eastern Washington, 3 p.m., JSU Stadium

16 - SGA Senate Meeting, 6 p.m., TMB Auditorium

17 - Constitution Day 2019, 4:30 p.m., Martin Hall
Film screening of “A More Perfect Union: America Becomes a Nation”

19 - International House Presentation on Japan and Nigeria, 11 a.m.
Come learn more about Japan and Nigeria from one of our JSU students!

21 - JSU Family Day against North Alabama, 6 p.m., JSU Stadium

CAMPUS

Meet your 2019-2020 SGA executives

Miranda Ladd
News Correspondent

With the fall semester here, freshness is in the air — fresh faces, new classes, new experiences and fresh Student Government Association representatives.

Ulises Herrera
Herrera, a first generation college student majoring in Marketing, is JSU’s first Hispanic SGA president. He is from the small town of Cleveland, Ala. Outside of his responsibilities as SGA President and being a student, Herrera loves Starbucks, meeting new people and hanging out with friends.

“No matter who you are or what your problems are, I am here for you,” said Herrera.

He wants to hold the administration accountable along with advocating for student needs. His campaign focuses on three main areas: address student issues through open forums, bring back a sexual assault awareness campaign and continue to unite the administration with the student body. His advice for students is to “reach out and get involved on campus” and “step outside of your comfort zone.”

Jerod Sharp
Sharp graduated fourth in his class from Sylvania High School. He currently serves as a town councilman of Sylvania. Continuing his association with the SGA, he was accepted



Ulises Herrera
SGA President



Desmond Thomas
SGA Vice President of Student Activities



Will Bowen
SGA Vice President of Organizational Affairs

Once at JSU she joined Delta Zeta and she currently serves as her chapter’s Vice President of Philanthropy. She also has taken part in Freshman Forum, has served as a delegate for JSU at the YMCA Legislature for two years and she plans to serve as the Senate Clerk in 2020. Seibert is also a member of Zeta Phi Eta and JSU’s Honors Program. She loves to read and travel, is an avid theatre fan and has recently gotten into podcasts.

Will Bowen
Bowen attended high school in Chelsea, Ala. and is a transfer student from UAB. Bowen transferred to JSU after his freshman year and now he is a senior majoring in Business Management with a minor in Spanish. He is a member of Pi Kappa Alpha and has represented JSU at the Collegiate Legislature.

“I really look forward to this year and seeing all that we can do,” said Bowen.

In his position, he plans to grow the Cocky Connect system, bring new changes to the Organizational Council and advocate for student organizations on campus to further their development. Bowen enjoys hanging out with friends and learning how to play the guitar. He encourages students to contact him anytime through his email.

Photos courtesy of Matt Reynolds/JSU.



Jerod Sharp
SGA Vice President of Student Senate



Kathleen Seibert
SGA Vice President of Public Relations

into Freshman Forum and served on the Student Activities Council. Sharp also served as a Freshman Forum mentor, Parliamentarian for the Organizational Council and Governmental Relations committee Head.

Being in charge of the student legislature, Sharp hopes to promote “Senate Delegates,” where organizations on campus nominate a delegate to attend formal senate meetings to see what the student sen-

ate is all about. Sharp is in charge of the SGA Code of Laws, updating the living document after a bill passes and he works along the other four SGA officers. He is also a brother of Sigma Nu.

Desmond Thomas
Thomas, a senior Business Finance major from Tuscaloosa, began his involvement and deep love for JSU during his freshman year. He got involved with Freshman Forum and it sparked his involvement

in many other leadership opportunities such as being a JSU Ambassador, Student Senator, Freshman Forum Mentor and Collegiate Legislature Delegate.

“I am super grateful for the opportunities and blessings that JSU has given me,” said Thomas.

This is Thomas’s second year in office, and he wants to take events “to the next level.” He plans to focus heavily on student-centered events.

In his free time, Thomas loves to go on adventures with his friends, eat and sleep.

Kathleen Seibert
Seibert is a junior Communication major with a concentration in public relations. She is from Smiths Stations, and throughout high school, Seibert cheered for two years and then joined theater for her junior and senior year. She was a member of the National Beta Club and National Honor Society.

Students move-in SGA officers meet students



Student poses with Cocky in her dorm as she unpacks her belongings to move-in.



People carry personal belongings and clothing in boxes into the dorms.

James Waller
News Correspondent
Jacksonville State University’s Student Government Association held a meet-and-greet in the Recreation and Fitness Center on Monday, August 19, for the student body to get to know their SGA officers.

Steel City Pops catered the event, giving free ice cream to students who attended. Some of the popsicle flavors offered were strawberry lemonade, peach, vanilla bean, cookies and cream and banana pudding.

Upon interview, the various SGA members all expressed a resounding optimism for the coming semester and their ability to serve the needs of a diverse student body.

“I’m still new to the Senate this year,” said Jacob Hinkles, an SGA Senator. “I’m still getting my bearings on how everything works, but I’m looking forward to working with my fellow senators, hopefully getting the opportunity to work on legislation that serves to positively impact our student body. I’m expecting a very productive year with the SGA and JSU in general.”

Kathleen Seibert, the SGA vice president of public relations, emphasized the need to reach



Matt Reynolds/JSU

The 2019-2020 SGA officers met with students in the Recreation and Fitness Center to discuss the upcoming academic year.

out to students outside of the typical “young 18 to 24 year old” groups, such as graduate students or older undergraduate students.

“As SGA, my expectations are that we serve students of all kinds and not one particular kind, that we address issues all throughout, and not just the same issue that it’s been every year, because even though parking is a problem, there are so many more things that also affect student life that we don’t think about,” said Ulises Herrera, SGA President.

Herrera is JSU’s first Hispanic SGA president in history. Shortly after his victory, he said he wants to work with the JSU administration to overcome the many chal-

lenges that the Hispanic community faces.

“We are forming a Latinx Committee that is going to help recruit and retain more Latinx students, as well as identifying any issues,” said Herrera.

Herrera ran on the campaign promises to bring back a campus-wide sexual assault awareness for the “betterment of the student body,” and that the biggest challenge facing the university is “open-mindedness to change.”

“For myself, personally, I plan to keep holding myself accountable to what I promised as I ran, and to make that I’m doing the best to represent the students and advocate for our needs,” said Herrera.

FILM OP-ED

New Disney Remakes: Hit or Miss?

Breanna Hill
A&E Editor

Throughout the 1990s and 2000s cinematic history was being made. Disney was able to mesmerize me with every single one of their movies. Each one of the films taught me lessons I would later come across in my life time. Lessons about losing, gaining and experiencing life with those that I cherish most.

Nearly most of those movies, if not all, were incredibly successful in the box office and have been a continuous staple in households across the nation (mine being one of them). Though the movies brought joy to me, I was unable to come to terms with the fact that the movies ended in such ways. “The Incredibles” left on a bit of a cliffhanger, and I don’t know about all you other Disney movie enthusiasts, but I was unable to accept the ending in “Toy Story 3”.

Over the years I found myself wondering if there would ever be a possibility of a remake or another installment of any of my favorite childhood movies featuring characters that I felt as if were true friends, despite them all being animated. Turns out that me thinking that wasn’t all that crazy after all.

Within the past year and a half Disney has released “Incredibles 2”, “Toy Story 4” and a remake of “The Lion King”. As a true animated movie lover I made it my mission to watch all three of these reinvented Disney creations. My love for the original major motion pictures was enough to send me to the movie theater wearing old mem-

orabilia, eager to give away my money in hopes to relive a bit of my childhood for an hour and a half.

After the announcements of all these films were out I found myself thinking about what could be added to the chain to make the movie franchises even greater than they already were. I felt as if I was a movie critic in some ways. I had the highest of expectations for the films, maybe a bit too high.

“Incredibles 2” was for lack of a better word, incredible (haha, see what I did there?). I found it to be as action packed as the first one. Though I believe the first of these two films had more heart-felt moments throughout the plot, I believe that the second one was able to make me laugh more with the comical effect that it added into the film. “Toy Story 4” was not what I seemed to expect at all. The third movie of this franchise definitely tugged at my heartstrings, but nothing tops the fourth and final film (I was literally sobbing in the theater. Why didn’t I think to bring tissues?). Maybe I would have been better off without this remake. When it comes to my thoughts about “The Lion King” remake, I have to say while I was impressed with the computer generated aspect of it, I couldn’t help but feel as if the scenes were rushed and not filled with as much heart and soul as the original 1994 version was.

The movies did what I wanted them to do. They let me re-live my childhood. Even if the plot of the movies weren’t what I expected, I was still able to see, hear and enjoy the company of those characters that I grew up with, that I loved and cherished.



Photos courtesy of IMDB.com

CAMPUS



Courtesy of Matt Reynolds/JSU

Marching Southerners Prepare for Upcoming Season

Breanna Hill
A&E Editor

Since 1928, the Jacksonville State University Marching Southerners have been an active group on campus. The members of the organization have represented JSU proudly over the last ninety-one years and continue to do so whilst sharing their passion with admirers from all around. With each passing year the number of members increases, while simultaneously shocking audiences with the beautifully rich sound and impressive, articulate moves.

Since 1994, the Marching Southerners, JSU’s award winning marching band, have been under the direction of Dr. Ken Bodiford. The entirety of the program has grown and evolved immensely while under his direction. Alongside Dr. Bodiford are

assistant directors Clint Gillespie and Jeremy Stovall to help teach and coach the 556 members this season.

Much like the years prior, the band, has put in countless hours of practice and preparation to present their production for this upcoming season titled “Earth, Wind and Fire”.

Although football season is primarily when you can hear the gifted musicians sharing their art with the world, there are also a few other events that take up space on the Southerners schedule. The band is set to make several appearances in a number of exhibitions and competitions, the biggest being the Band of America Grand National PreLims (Exhibition) taking place at the Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, Ind.

To see a full schedule for The Marching Southerners, visit www.marchingsoutherners.org.



MOVIE REVIEW

Scary Stories and whatnot

Breihan Dryden
A&E Correspondent

I, like many other children, grew up reading the 1981 children’s horror classic “Scary Stories To Tell in the Dark.”

I, like many other children, developed a love of horror fiction (and I’m pretty sure night terrors) from this collection of folk horror, coupled with its delightfully grotesque illustrations.

In 2016, the world learned that Oscar winning director Guillermo del Toro would be producing/co-writing an adaptation of the original story and I couldn’t be happier. “Seriously, the guy who made the folk horror classic ‘Pan’s Labyrinth’ and produced the absolutely chilling ‘The Orphanage’ is making this?” my excited horror geek mind asked. “What could possibly go wrong?”

Fast forward four years and add acclaimed horror director Andre Ovredal (“example,” “example”) into the mix and we finally get to gaze upon the glorious teen horror that they have brought us.

Honest to God, I’m just happy that this film got made and is pretty good.

Set in the late 60s, “Scary Stories” tells the tale of three friends and a crush cursed by the spooky kid killer Sarah Bellows.

The kids irritate some bullies on Halloween and then hide in the car of this dude at a drive-in. After the bullies are asked to leave, the kids decide to go have a look at the old Bellows place, because it’s supposedly haunted, ya dig? It is haunted by the one and only Sarah Bellows, who was supposedly locked up in her basement following the death of some kids she would read to, through her wall. She hanged herself and now her ghost cries out, wishing only to read to the children from her book of scary stories to tell in the dark.

This is a movie best seen almost completely blind. If you’re like me and saw the posters and watched only the first trailer, then you’ll thoroughly dig this.

From what I’ve heard, all the other trailers kind of spoil the movie rotten and that’s a darn shame, because the best thing this



Courtesy of IMDB.com

movie has going for it are the monsters and how they play in to each character’s life. Seriously, the monsters in this are absolutely eerie and lead to some of the most well-crafted scenes of terror I’ve seen since “Hereditary.”

That’s not to say that this is some crazy horror classic, it isn’t. Ultimately, it’s teen

horror exploitation at its most nostalgic. But it’s well-directed, with some fantastic shots and brilliant atmosphere provided by the film’s 1960s Halloween aesthetic.

Should you go see “Spooky Tales Being Spoke of at Night?” Yes. Good God, yes.

Give this movie all your money so we can get a sequel.

HOT TAKE

Student discounts at eateries and a new Chick-fil-A

Breanna Hill
A&E Editor

When students first start their college journey they begin to adapt to a new lifestyle. Part of that new lifestyle is ditching home-cooked meals, which they will soon realize has become a thing of the past now that they’re living on their own. Eating out becomes the “norm” and that’s okay. It’s inevitable, really. Luckily, Jacksonville doesn’t lack various eating establishments. In fact, Chick-fil-A of Jacksonville just finished construction and opened its doors earlier this month.

Construction on the new Chick-fil-A started in April of this year. Though Jacksonville State University has a Chick-fil-A inside the TMB (the student commons building,) there’s nothing like the original chicken sandwich from the original establishment. The citizens of Jacksonville supported Chick-fil-A by camping out the night before the grand opening on August 8, all eager and excited to be one of the first 100 customers to win part of the promotion

(one free Chick-fil-A sandwich meal per week for a year). The new Chick-fil-A is located off of Pelham Road.

Another part of that new college lifestyle is doing whatever you possibly can in order to save yourself a quick buck. Some local eating establishments understand that college students are on a budget, and knowing that has caused them to offer student discounts and/or special offers for those attending the university.

The following restaurants are known to have student discounts if you bring your student ID: Dairy Queen, Jack’s, Huddle House, BoJangle’s, Papa John’s, Captain D’s, Wendy’s and Java Jolt. Most of the discounts are 10 percent, or even 20 percent.

When eating at a restaurant in Jacksonville, make sure to always bring your student ID and ask them if they offer any student discounts. Take advantage of any and all discounts, even if you’re rushing through the drive-thru; it’ll help tremendously.



Photos courtesy of Matt Reynolds/JSU

FOOTBALL



Courtesy of JSU/Matt Reynolds

Gamecock football set to have strong season

Josie Howell
Sports Editor

Jacksonville, Ala. - The 2019 football season for the Jacksonville State University Gamecocks is expected to be one for the books. Last season, Grass had many freshmen and overall new players across the team, he now has a much more experienced team to take on the 2019 season.

Last year, the Gamecocks brought in their 5th consecutive OVC championship and ended with a 7-1 conference record and a 9-4 overall record. Not only have the Gamecocks been chosen as number six overall in the Football Championship Subdivision preseason polls following their 2018 season, but they were also picked to win the Ohio Valley Conference Championship for a sixth year in a row, which has never been done before in OVC history. Fans and players alike are not only excited about making OVC history, but also to have another shot at possibly bringing home a national title with a team that has already proven successful and talented.

Josh Pearson, wide receiver and pre-season All American, is one of the key players to be on the lookout for. Pearson is a talented wide receiver that, according his player profile stats on the JSU Gamecocks website, accounted for well

over 1,000 yards for the 2018-2019 season and is expected to bring that same energy and talent in the 2019 season.

Another key player is starting quarterback and Clemson transfer and preseason All American Zerrick Cooper. Cooper brought in well over an incredible 3,000 yards for the 2018 season but after having actual game experience under his belt, he can be expected to have an even better season in 2019.

Safety Marlon Bridges, Defensive Back Yul Gowdy, Line-Backer Jalen Choice, and defensive back Traco Williams will all be key players when it comes to JSU’s defense. According to the player statistic on the JSU Gamecocks website, Gowdy was also named preseason All-American as a sophomore and made a total of 41 tackles for the season as well as 11 tackles for loss. Choice and Williams were both named 2nd Team All-OVC. Williams was able to bring in four interceptions, 66 tackles, 8.5 tackles for loss, and 10 passes defended. Choice was able to bring in a total of 88 tackles and 12 tackles for loss.

Newcomer Brandon Hudgins is another player to be on the lookout for. While Hudgins still has some in-game college experience to gain, he was named a three-star recruit by scout.com and

received offers from multiple universities like Georgia Tech, UAB and South Alabama, just to name a few. Ultimately, Hudgins committed to playing as a linebacker for Jacksonville State. His senior year in high school, Hudgins was named one of the top 60 players of Alabama by Rivals.com and was ranked one of the top 40 Linebackers in the country.

Jacksonville State will be playing a total of seven home games this season, giving them many opportunities for home field advantage. This includes an exciting game against the University of North Alabama, which many fans are excited about given that UN was previously taken off of the gamecocks schedule.

The schedule for the 2019-2020 Gamecocks football schedule is as follows: August 29, Southeastern Louisiana, Hammond, LA. September 7, Chattanooga, at JSU. September 14, Eastern Washington, at JSU. September 21, North Alabama, at JSU. September 28, Austin Peay, Clarksville, TN. October 5, Tennessee State, at JSU. October 12, Eastern Illinois, Charleston, IL. October 19, Southeastern Missouri, at JSU. October 26, Murray State, at JSU. November 2, UT Martin, Martin TN. November 9, Tennessee Tech, Cookeville, TN. November 23, Eastern Kentucky, at JSU.

SOCCER

JSU soccer team set to play rival UA at home this season

Josie Howell
Sports Editor

Jacksonville State University soccer team is set to play against the University of Alabama Thursday, September 12 at 7 p.m.

While most JSU students and fans would have to travel to see this game, it will be different than previous UA matchups. The Crimson Tide players will be coming to Jacksonville, giving the Gamecocks a home field advantage. This will make an already exciting game that much more exciting for both players and Gamecock fans.

Alabama is predicted to win this matchup, but do not underestimate the talent of the women on JSU’s team. There are some key players that are expected to make a difference in this game. Cheyenne Carden, a 5 foot 8 senior from Huntsville, is expected to bring much needed power in the game as both a defender and forward. Carden has been playing for Jacksonville State since 2016 and saw over 1,500 minutes of game time in the 2018 season.

The three seniors for the gamecocks, Emma Meadows, Rachel Blanding and Nadia Plawiuk, are strong players as individuals, but a powerhouse when brought together, combining a total of 49 shots in last year’s season.

Crimson Tide players to be on the lookout for are their lead scorer Junior Casey Wertz, a 5 foot 7 forward and Alex Plavin, a 5 foot 6 junior goalkeeper. Both players have incredible talent and the



Courtesy of Matt Reynolds /JSU

stats to back it up.

According to the University of Alabama athletics website, Wertz had the second most shots on goal in her 2017 season and lead in goals with eight shots for the 2018 season as well as 20 shots on goal. In a 2017 game again Jacksonville State, Wertz shot three goals within 42 minutes.

Alex Plavin is one of Alabama’s top goalkeepers. Plavin started in 17 games in the 2018 season and logged in over 1,600 minutes of playing time. Plavin was even able to bring in a career high of nine saves against Florida Gulf Coast University.

The key advantage that the Gamecocks have over the Tide is that they have the more experienced team. UA’s Women’s Soccer team has welcomed 11 newcomers this season while JSU has

seven returning seniors who have a lot of experience under their belts. For example, Emma Meadows has been an integral player since her freshman year, starting in multiple games and logging in over 800 minutes of playing time in her freshman year in 2016 and over 1,600 minutes in her junior year in 2018.

While both teams have their strengths, they each also have weaknesses and it could be anyone’s game. This matchup will be held at Jacksonville State University soccer stadium next to the Pete Mathews Coliseum. In order to keep up with future soccer events and game dates, follow the JSU athletics page on twitter @JSUgamecocks and on their Facebook page: Jacksonville State Gamecocks.

FOOTBALL

Gamecocks give back(packs)



Courtesy of Taylor Beckham

Josie Howell
Sports Editor

Over the past four years, The Jacksonville State football team has teamed up with the ladies of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority for their annual “give back-pack” charity event.

On July 26, members of the sorority and football team held a community supply drive on the Jacksonville City Square. This is an event where not only JSU athletics get involved, but an event where the entire community is invited to get involved and give back. The local community, JSU students and anyone who is willing to donate, were invited to give backpacks and supplies for these families.

This event provides school supplies for local families and students for the upcoming school year. Each year before the new school year begins, each individual sorority member is assigned to collect two backpacks worth of supplies to contribute to the cause.

On August 11, families in need throughout Calhoun County were invited to a community pick-up, which

took place at Jacksonville community center. Those involved also traveled to schools in Calhoun County on August 13 to give out backpacks and school supplies. In the past, those that helped hand out the supplies have arrived at the schools dressed up as Dr. Suess characters to make it that much more fun and enjoyable for the kids.

“For me, I enjoy being part of an organization that gives to the community,” said Harley Stickney, a member of Alpha Omicron Pi. “Before college, I thought sororities were self-centered, but Alpha Omicron Pi has certainly proven me wrong. We are constantly doing what we can to give back to the community, and that’s what I love most about being an AOII. Being part of a service-based organization has changed my life!”

This event was initially created by sorority alumnae, Fatima Wise, who is now a teacher at Oscar Adams Elementary School, along with former JSU Alpha Omicron Pi Chairwoman Tori Attison. Everyone who has been involved from the start hopes that

they can give students the confidence needed to have a fun and successful school year.

The football team has extended their help every year since the start of the event four years ago. According to Alpha Omicron Pi Chairwoman Taylor Beckham, Coach Grass has always loved the idea of this event and encourages his team to join in and help as much as they can. This year, JSU football and Alpha Omicron Pi were able to donate to 26 different schools across the county and gave out over 200 backpacks worth of supplies.

For those who would like to get involved, you can gather supplies for next year’s drive. Supplies that are needed for this event are pencils, erasers, crayons and markers, scissors, glue sticks, 1-inch binders, 3-prong folders, composition notebooks (non-spiral), wide-ruled paper and hand sanitizer.

For more information on future event dates, follow Alpha Omicron Pi on Instagram at “aoiiatjsu” and Facebook at “Alpha Omicron Pi at JSU.”

VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball
picked
No.4

Josie Howell
Sports Editor

As the Jacksonville State University volleyball team enters into their 2019 season, they are expected to have yet another successful run after being chosen No. 4 in the Ohio Valley Conference preseason. Morehead State coming in third, Austin Peay in second, and Murray State as the number one pick. Last season, the gamecocks advanced all the way to the semi-finals and ended the 2018 season with a 18-14 overall record and a 9-7 conference record.

The gamecocks have two athletes on their roster that have been named preseason All-OVC, Kaylee Frear and Lexie Libbs. Both helped lead the team to such a successful season. According to the Jacksonville State Athletics page, Frear started in all 32 matches and was the only player to play in all 124 sets. She also finished the season with 115 blocks and 293 kills.

Lexie Libbs, Tennessee State transfer, became a starter her first year at Jacksonville State in 2018. She recorded the most assists within a season at JSU since 2007 with over 1,200 assists, 61 of which were in a single match against Murray State. Libbs helped lead JSU to 18 wins and its first OVC tournament victory within the last nine seasons.

The gamecocks will also be welcoming a new player to their roster, Hannah Marchard. Marchard is an incoming junior who transferred from Jacksonville University in Jacksonville, Florida. She is a 5 foot 11 middle-blocker who was a starter for both her freshman and sophomore years. Marchard finished last season with over 200 kills and had a record 24 aces.

The Gamecocks are set to have their exhibition game at home at Pete Mathews Coliseum Saturday, August 24 at 1 p.m. against Kennesaw State. Their season opener will be at East Tennessee State on August 30 at 12:30 p.m. Be on the lookout for updates and future events by following the lady gamecocks on Twitter @JSUgamecocksVB.

TENNIS

Tennis teams gain six new athletes

Josie Howell
Sports Editor

It was recently announced by Jacksonville State that the tennis teams would have a total of six newcomers added to their rosters. The men’s tennis team would have five newcomers and the women’s tennis team would have a transfer from State College of Florida. Each of these players are expected to play at high levels and have already established impressive tennis careers for themselves.

According to the Jacksonville State Athletics website, Junior and State College of Florida transfer Sara Jamal was ranked No. 17 in singles and No. 5 in doubles at SCF before coming to JSU. She also helped her team to a No. 5 ranking at the national championship for their division.

Thomas Norwood is a Hartford Community College transfer who is a London England Native. While back home, Norwood was ranked 35th prior to his signing with Hartford. While at Harford,

Norwood played No. 1 and was ranked sixth nationally in singles at the and seventh in doubles at the junior college level. According to the Hartford community college athletics page, Norwood was also recently named a 2019 Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-American. He is only the second Hartford tennis player to earn All-American honors in the history of Hartford’s tennis program.

Freshman Dmitrii Vasilev is a Yaroslavl, Russia native. Vasilev won the 2015 Russian Championship in the doubles division then proceeded to win both singles and doubles of the Championship South Region of Russia. Overall, he was ranked number five nationally.

Agustin Suarez is a freshman. Suarez is from Quito, Ecuador. There, he was ranked the No. 1 player under 16 and 18. He won both the singles and doubles International Tennis Foundation Championship titles in 2019. He also represented Ecuador in the South American



courtesy of JSU

can Tournament and received a career-best ranking of six by the South American Tennis Federation at the U16 level.

Andrea Moro is also a freshman from Sassari, Italy. Back home, Moro received a career-best ranking of 2.5 nationally. Moro also became a champion at the Regional Singles Championships in both Sardinia and Puglia.

Anton Hjertquist is another freshman who reigns from Sweden. There he was ranked one of the top players under 21 within the na-

tion. He won the German Berzirksliga in 2018, the U18 Pershagen Open in 2017 and was ranked 13th for Stockholm in the Swedish Regional Rankings in his last year before entering into his college career.

The men’s and women’s 2020 tennis schedule has not been announced yet, but be on the lookout for future dates and announcements by following the women’s tennis team on Instagram at “jsuwtennis” and the men’s tennis team on Instagram at “jsumenstennis.”